INTRODUCTION

1. The present report gives an account of the activities of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) in pursuance of the mandate entrusted to it by the Security Council in resolution 350 (1974) and extended by subsequent resolutions, most recently by resolution 722 (1991) of 29 November 1991. The report covers the period 21 November 1991 to 19 May 1992.

I. COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORCE

A. Composition and command

2. As of May 1992, the composition of UNDOF was as follows:

Austria	533
Canada	215
Finland	381
Poland	160 a/
	1 289
United Nations military observers (detailed from the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO))	7
	1 296

a/ Includes one officer deployed as a military adviser to the representative of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan and Pakistan in accordance with the letter dated 12 March 1990 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council (S/21188).

In addition to the above, UNDOF was assisted by UNTSO military observers assigned to the Israel-Syria Mixed Armistice Commission. Major-General Roman Misztal of Poland continued as Force Commander.

3. With a view to reducing expenditures, UNDOF is in the process of undergoing a streamlining, which will involve a 15 per cent reduction of each military contingent and of the internationally recruited civilian staff, with attendant savings in transport and accommodations. The reduction will take place over the next several months in connection with troop rotations. It will affect headquarters and support elements; the number of soldiers on operational duty in the observation posts and on patrol will remain the same. The streamlining will thus be without detriment to the operational effectiveness of the Force.

III. ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

A. Functions and guidelines

9. The functions and guidelines of UNDOF, as well as its tasks, were outlined in the Secretary-General's report of 27 November 1974. 1/ UNDOF continued, with the cooperation of the parties, to fulfil the tasks entrusted to it. This was facilitated by contacts maintained by the Force Commander and his staff with the military liaison staffs of Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic. In past reports reference was made to restrictions on the freedom of movement of the Force and its contingents (see S/23233); some of these have now been lifted. However, the Force still does not have the full freedom of movement necessary for its mission.

B. Maintenance of the cease-fire

10. UNDOF continued to supervise the observance of the cease-fire between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic. The cease-fire has been maintained, except for minor incidents. In the first half of April 1992, a number of firings by Israeli troops at livestock grazing in the area of separation near the A-line were a cause of concern for UNDOF and were protested by the Syrian authorities. Following representations by UNDOF to the Israel Defence Forces, this dangerous practice ceased.

C. Supervision of the Agreement on Disengagement 2/ with regard to the areas of separation and limitation

11. UNDOF continued to supervise the area of separation to ensure that there were no military forces in it. This was done by means of static positions and observation posts, manned 24 hours a day, and by foot and mobile patrols operating at irregular intervals on predetermined routes by day and night. In addition, temporary outposts were established and patrols were conducted from time to time to perform specific tasks. The system of patrol paths along the cease-fire lines in the area of separation was further expanded. The civilian population in the area of separation continued to grow, and the Syrian authorities have stationed police there in exercise of their responsibilities. UNDOF adjusted its operations as necessary to take account of developments and to carry out its tasks effectively.

12. UNDOF conducted fortnightly inspections of armament and force levels in the areas of limitation. These inspections were carried out with the assistance of liaison officers from the parties, who accompanied the inspection teams. UNDOF also lent its assistance and good offices on request from the parties. In carrying out its tasks, UNDOF received the cooperation of both parties although, as in the past, restrictions on movement and inspection were placed on its teams in certain areas by both sides. UNDOF continued to seek the lifting of these restrictions so as to guarantee its freedom of access to all locations on both sides.

18. The search for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East and, in particular, the efforts undertaken at various levels to implement Security Council resolution 338 (1973) were dealt with in the Secretary-General's report on the situation in the Middle East, 3/ submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 45/83 A of 13 December 1990. The Secretary-General has continued to maintain contacts on the matter with the parties and interested Governments.

VI. OBSERVATIONS

19. UNDOF, which was established in May 1974 to supervise the cease-fire called for by the Security Council and the Agreement on Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian forces of 31 May 1974, has continued to perform its functions effectively, with the cooperation of the parties. During the period under review, the situation in the Israel-Syria sector has remained generally quiet and there has been no serious incident.

20. Despite the present quiet in the Israel-Syria sector, the situation in the Middle East as a whole continues to be potentially dangerous and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached. I continue to hope that determined efforts will be made by all concerned to tackle the problem in all its aspects, with a view to arriving at a just and durable peace settlement, as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 338 (1973).

21. In the prevailing circumstances, I consider the continued presence of UNDOF in the area to be essential. I therefore recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Force for a further period of six months, until 30 November 1992. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has given its assent to the proposed extension. The Government of Israel has also expressed its agreement.

22. In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation to the Governments contributing troops to UNDOF and to those that provide UNTSO military observers assigned to the Force. I take this opportunity to pay tribute to Major-General Roman Misztal, the Commander of the Force, to the officers and men and women of the Force, to its civilian staff and to the UNTSO military observers assigned to UNDOF. They have performed with efficiency and devotion to duty the important tasks assigned to them by the Security Council.

UNITED NATIONS

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE

(for the period 21 November 1991-19 May 1992)

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B. Deployment

4. UNDOF is deployed within and close to the area of separation, with base camps and logistic units located nearby; UNDOF headquarters is in Damascus. The deployment of UNDOF as of May 1992, including the 11 observation posts manned by UNTSO military observers, is shown on the attached map.

5. At present, the Austrian battalion mans 20 positions and 7 outposts and conducts 28 patrols daily at irregular intervals on predetermined routes in the area of separation north and inclusive of the Damascus-Quneitra road. The Finnish battalion mans 16 positions and 6 outposts and conducts 26 patrols daily at irregular intervals in the area of separation south of the Damascus-Quneitra road. UNTSO military observers under the operational control of UNDOF man 11 observation posts in the area of separation and close to it.

6. The Austrian battalion base camp is located near Wadi Faouar, 8 kilometres east of the area of separation. The Finnish battalion base camp is located near the village of Ziouani, west of the area of separation. The Austrian battalion shares Camp Faouar with the Polish logistic unit, and the Finnish battalion shares Camp Ziouani with the Canadian logistic company. The Canadian signal unit has detachments at Camps Ziouani and Faouar as well as in Damascus. The military police, which used to have detachments at Camp Ziouani and in Damascus, is being redeployed, with detachments at Camp Ziouani, Camp Faouar and position 28.

C. Casualties

7. During the period under review, UNDOF sustained two fatal casualties: one as a result of an accident, the second from other causes. Since its inception, UNDOF has suffered 30 fatalities, 18 as a result of hostile action or accidents and 12 from other causes.

II. LOGISTICS

8. First-line logistic support is internal to the contingents. Second-line logistic support is provided by the Canadian and Polish logistic units. Third-line support is provided through normal supply channels by the United Nations. Damascus international airport continues to serve UNDOF as the airhead for rotations; Tel Aviv international airport is also used. The ports of Latakia and Haifa are used for sea shipments. Air movement control is provided internally by UNDOF headquarters staff and sea shipments are processed by local agents. In-theatre air support is provided by UNTSO on request.

13. The safety of Syrian shepherds who graze their flocks close to and west of the A-line continued to be of concern to UNDOF. The areas in question were patrolled frequently and, from time to time, standing patrols were deployed in order to prevent incidents. In the southern part of the area of separation, the grazing security fence continued to be effective.

D. Mines

14. Mines still pose a threat to members of the Force and to the inhabitants in the area of separation. During the period under review, the Polish mine-clearing teams cleared a total area of 55,110 square metres. One anti-tank mine, 14 cluster bombs, 2 anti-artillery shells, 1 mortar illumination shell, as well as quantities of small-arms ammunition, were found and destroyed.

E. Humanitarian activities

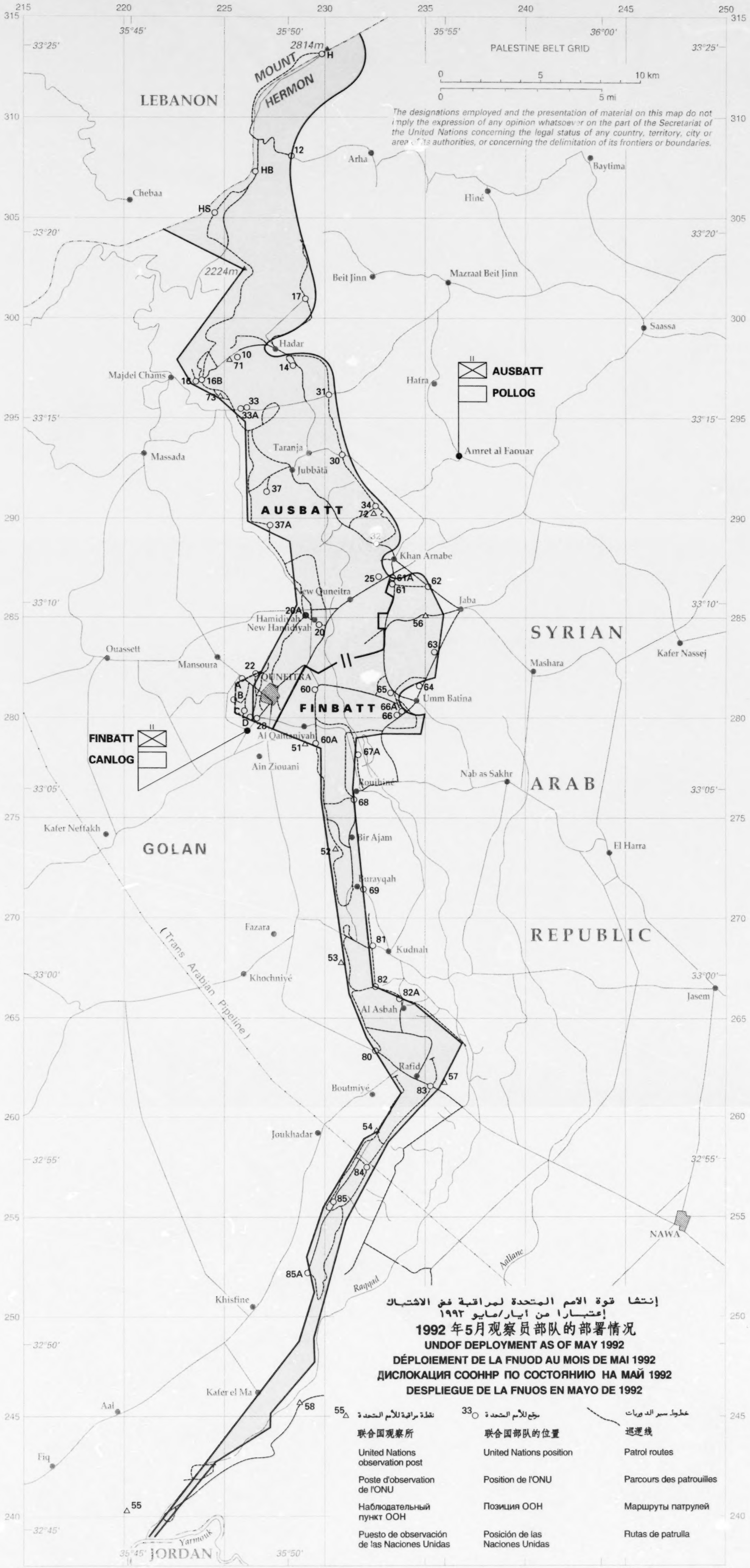
15. UNDOF assisted the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) with facilities for handing over parcels and mail and for the passage of persons and personal effects across the area of separation. Medical treatment was given to the local population in cases of emergency.

IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

16. By its resolution 46/193 of 20 December 1991, the General Assembly, inter alia, authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for UNDOF at a rate not to exceed $3,564,000 gross ($3,472,500 net) per month for the period from 1 June to 30 November 1992, inclusive, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 722 (1991). Therefore, should the Security Council extend the mandate of the Force beyond 31 May 1992, the cost to the United Nations will be within the commitment authority provided by the General Assembly in resolution 46/193. Appropriate financial provision will need to be made by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session in respect of periods after 30 November 1992, should the Security Council decide to extend the mandate of the Force beyond that date. Unpaid assessments to the UNDOF special account as at 30 April 1992 amounted to $17.2 million.

V. IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338 (1973)

17. In deciding in its resolution 722 (1991) of 29 November 1991 to renew the mandate of UNDOF for a further period of six months, the Security Council also called upon the parties concerned to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973) and requested the Secretary-General to submit, at the end of the period, a report on the developments in the situation and the measures taken to implement that resolution.


PALESTINE BELT GRID
0 5 10 km
0 5 mi
The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.
LEBANON
MOUNT HERMON
2814m
2224m
AUSBATT
FINBATT
QUNEITRA
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
GOLAN
JORDAN
NAWA
Trans Arabian Pipeline
Aalianc
Raqqad
Yarmouk
Arha
Baytima
Hiné
Chebaa
Beit Jinn
Mazraat Beit Jinn
Saassa
Hadar
Majdel Chams
Hafra
Amret al Faouar
Taranja
Massada
Jubbātā
Khan Arnabe
New Quneitra
Jaba
Hamidiyah
New Hamidiyah
Ouassett
Mansoura
Mashara
Kafer Nassej
Umm Batina
Al Qantaniyah
Ain Ziouani
Nab as Sakhr
Rouibine
Kafer Neffakh
Bir Ajam
El Harra
Burayqah
Fazara
Kudnah
Khochniyé
Jasem
Al Asbah
Rafid
Boutmiyé
Joukhadar
Khisfine
Kafer el Ma
Aal
Fiq
AUSBATT
POLLOG
FINBATT
CANLOG
إنتشا قوة الأمم المتحدة لمراقبة فض الاشتباك
إعتبارا من أيار/مايو ١٩٩٢
1992 年5月观察员部队的部署情况
UNDOF DEPLOYMENT AS OF MAY 1992
DÉPLOIEMENT DE LA FNUOD AU MOIS DE MAI 1992
ДИСЛОКАЦИЯ СООННР ПО СОСТОЯНИЮ НА МАЙ 1992
DESPLIEGUE DE LA FNUOS EN MAYO DE 1992
نقطة مراقبة للأمم المتحدة
联合国观察所
United Nations observation post
Poste d'observation de l'ONU
Наблюдательный пункт ООН
Puesto de observación de las Naciones Unidas
موقع للأمم المتحدة
联合国部队的位置
United Nations position
Position de l'ONU
Позиция ООН
Posición de las Naciones Unidas
خطوط سير الدوريات
巡逻线
Patrol routes
Parcours des patrouilles
Маршруты патрулей
Rutas de patrulla
MAP NO. 2916 REV. 31 UNITED NATIONS
MAY 1992

Notes

1/ Official Records of the Security Council, Twenty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1974, document S/11563, paras. 8-10.

2/ Ibid., Supplement for April, May and June 1974, document S/11302 and Add.1 and 2.

3/ A/46/652-S/23225.